

Grand Finale

Scripture Reading — Revelation 1:1-6

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. — Revelation 1:5-6

Often at the close of a great symphony, or a concert, or a fireworks show, we are treated to a grand finale. With fireworks, the bursts are loud and long and beautiful. The whole night sky above us lights up. To me, it's always worth staying up for; I love the grand finale.

As a grand finale in God's Word to us, the book of Revelation reminds us that we are priests. Today Jesus rules on the throne. He is our ultimate Priest and King forever, and he "has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father." The priesthood and kingship of Jesus are eternal. That's what we can look forward to as priests of God almighty.

Revelation 5 also describes a scene in which the hosts of heaven hail Jesus as the King of all kings. Why? "Because . . . with your blood," they say, "you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." So the song rings out: "Worthy is [Jesus] the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

We are priests serving in God's kingdom forever. And this is all to the Lord's glory and honor. Thanks be to God!

Prayer

Lord Jesus, keep us faithful as your prophets and priests. Lead us to people and places that need your Word and care. In your name we pray. Amen.

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